

South Dakota MILK PRODUCTION

News Release

April 16, 2004

JANUARY - MARCH 2004 MILK PRODUCTION UP

SIoux FALLS, April 16, 2004 – The January - March 2004 quarterly milk production for South Dakota totaled 339 million pounds, 2 percent above last year, according to USDA's South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service.

During the first quarter of 2004, the average number of milk cows, at 80,000, is down 4,000 head from last year. This is unchanged from last quarter.

During 2003, the number of milk cows averaged 82,000, down 4,000 head from the previous year. Milk produced per cow averaged 16,159 pounds, up from 14,988 pounds in 2002. Total milk produced in 2003, at 1,325 million pounds, was up 3 percent from 2002.

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